

Stop Senior Scams Act

Reps. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE-AL) & Tim Walberg (R-MI-7)

The bipartisan *Stop Senior Scams Act* would establish a federal advisory council to coordinate industry and government agencies in developing tools for retailers to help stop a payment before it is made so seniors don't fall victim to fraud or scams.

Scams Target Some of the Most Vulnerable

As the digital world becomes an increasingly important part of our life, our seniors are among the most vulnerable consumers in the country. Scams can affect every part of life with scammers trying to trick people out of their personal information and money. These fraud schemes can come over the phone, on the Internet, and through mass marketing, among others.

Scammers and con artists often target our seniors and attempt to steal their money, identity, and dignity. Commonly, this comes in the form of fraudsters asking seniors to send a payment through gift cards, by wire transfer, or credit card. Retailers, financial services providers, and wire transfer companies have undertaken efforts to do their part to stop their customers, including seniors, from being scammed.

We must ensure these businesses have the tools necessary to prevent fraud from affecting our nation's seniors on the front lines. Stakeholder coordination and the development of model educational materials can help prevent con artists from scamming seniors before they fall victim to the scam.

The advisory council would:

The Senior Scam Prevention Act would create a federal advisory council, subject to FACA, at the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to bring together relevant government agencies, consumer advocates, and industry representatives to collect and develop model educational materials for retailers, financial institutions, and wire transfer companies to use in stopping scams on seniors.

What does the Senior Scam Prevention Act do?

- Examine ways these businesses can use their platform to educate the public on scams.
- Provide additional helpful information to retailers, financial services providers, and wire transfer companies as they work to prevent fraud affecting seniors.
- Publicly report information about the newly created model material as well as recommendations, dissenting views, and findings of the advisory council.

Supported By:

AARP, Amazon, Best Buy, Consumer Federation of America, MoneyGram, National Consumers League, National Retail Federation, Retail Industry Leaders Association, Target, Walmart, and Western Union

If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor, please contact Kevin Diamond at: Kevin.Diamond@mail.house.gov.

